

District 25 News

MAKIKI, TANTALUS, MCCULLY, PAPA KOLEA

JANUARY 2010 SUPPLEMENT

2010 Key Legislative Dates

January 20th

Opening Day

January 27th

Last Day for Bill Introductions

March 4th

First Crossover (Last day for 3rd Reading of Bills in Originating Body)

March 10th

Budget Crossover

April 8th

Second Crossover (Last day for 3rd Reading of Bills that were Amended by Non-Originating Body)

April 22nd

Final Decking (Non-Fiscal Bills)

April 23rd

Final Decking (Fiscal Bills)

April 29th

Adjournment Sine Die



Aloha Neighbors!

The 2010 legislative session is underway and, as always, my office and staff are available to assist you with your questions or concerns.

As is the case each year, successful legislation and constituent support services require a diligent and energetic staff. This year's core staff is no exception. From left to right in the above photo are my core staff members Kerianne Pascua, Sonny Ganaden, and Lisa Carter.

Kerianne Pascua is serving in her third legislative session and returns as a administrative assistant and community liaison during this session. **Sonny Ganaden**, a licensed attorney, will be serving as a legislative analyst, and will be assisting my work on the Health, Human Services, Consumer Protection, and Judiciary Committees. Joining my office as my only full-time, year-round staff member is **Lisa Carter** who will serve as my Office Manager. Lisa brings valuable experience to my office with years of service in the government and non-profit sectors.

My legislative office is here to work for you. Please feel free to stop by the State Capitol or contact my office at 586-9425 or by email at rebelatti@capitol.hawaii.gov.

Mahalo pumehana,

Della Au Belatti
State Representative, District 25

District 25 News

To comment on something written in *District 25 News* or to request regular e-delivery, please write to us at:

Representative Della Au Belatti
State Capitol, Room 331
Honolulu, HI 96813
repbelatti@capitol.hawaii.gov

An electronic copy may also be downloaded from the Representative's House Majority web page at http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/hsemaj/.belatti_della.html. E-newsletters are usually posted after the hard-copy version is mailed.

United States[®] Census 2010

IT'S IN OUR HANDS

The Census: a snapshot

What: The census is a count of everyone residing in the United States.

Who: All U.S. residents must be counted—people of all races and ethnic groups, both citizens and non-citizens.

When: Census Day is April 1, 2010. Questionnaire responses should represent the household as it exists on this day. More detailed socioeconomic information will be collected annually from a small percentage of the population through the American Community Survey.

Why: The U.S. Constitution requires a national census once every 10 years. The census will show state population counts and determine representation in the U.S. House of Representatives.

How: Census questionnaires will be delivered or mailed to households via U.S. mail in March 2010; many households will receive a replacement questionnaire in early April. Census workers also will visit households that do not return questionnaires.

The Importance of Census Data: Every year, the federal government can allocate more than \$400 billion to states and communities based, in part, on census data. Community planners and governments rely on census data to determine where there is a need for additional social services and funding.

Importance for OUR Community: Our district is the densest community in Hawaii, and possibly the nation. We have had a historically low return rate for census materials, which has hurt our ability to allocate funding.

CENSUS RESPONSES ARE CONFIDENTIAL AND SAFE. With only 10 questions, the 2010 Census questionnaire takes just 10 minutes to complete.

Interested in Short-term work for the US Census?

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2010
Makiki District Park Auditorium
Information Session and Practice Testing

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2010
Makiki District Park Auditorium
Testing Session for the US Census

We need your help to fulfill the goals of the 2010 Census. In partnership with Representative Della Au Belatti, census workers will be conducting two sessions in Makiki, looking to hire in the community for paid, short-term assignments that last 5-10 weeks beginning this spring. For more information about Census jobs, call the US Census Bureau, toll-free at:



IT'S IN OUR HANDS

Find out more about these sessions in Makiki by contacting our office at 586-9425. For more information about the 2010 Census, visit www.2010census.gov

District 25 News

MAKIKI, TANTALUS, MCCULLY, PAPAOLEA

JANUARY 2010

Dear Neighbors,

2010 is already proving to be a challenging and tough year for the State. The projected \$1 billion State budget deficit, the continued persistence of furlough Fridays, unemployment rates, and the austere beginning of this year's legislative session are but few indicators of how fragile our island economy is.

Now more than ever, I need your thoughts and feedback on how the Legislature should manage the State's budget and how taxpayers' precious resources should be invested and spent. Please take the time to fill out the enclosed survey.

Despite the challenges ahead, I am looking forward to a productive session. Should you have any questions or need my assistance, please contact me at 586-9425 or at repbelatti@capitol.hawaii.gov.

Mahalo pumehana,



Della Au Belatti
State Representative, District 25




Your name and contact information are optional, but by providing this information I will be able to stay in touch and return a summary of the survey responses to you.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

E-Mail: _____



COMMUNITY
SURVEY
ENCLOSED!

2010 Community Survey

Your comments will help guide Representative Belatti as issues are considered during the 2010 legislative session. Mahalo for taking the time to complete and return this community survey!

According to estimates, the state's budget will have a deficit of upwards of \$1 billion by the end of fiscal year 2011. How should we meet this challenge? Please check your answer.

- | | Strongly
Oppose | Somewhat
Oppose | Don't
Know | Somewhat
Support | Strongly
Support |
|--|--------------------|--------------------|---------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1) Provide fewer government services | | | | | |
| 2) Raise taxes/fees to fund government | | | | | |

What is your opinion about the following ways to generate more funds for state government?

- | | |
|--|--|
| 3) Increase GET by half to one percent | |
| 4) Use hurricane insurance fund | |
| 5) Use Rainy Day fund | |
| 6) Transfer rail fund to the state | |
| 7) Transfer hotel room taxes from the counties | |
| 8) Impose barrel tax for infrastructure projects | |
| 9) Impose higher taxes on soda, alcohol products | |

To help Hawaii's economy, some say that we need to give tax credits while others feel that it only benefits a certain segment of our community. How do you feel about tax credits for the following?

- | | Strongly Oppose | Somewhat Oppose | Don't Know | Somewhat Support | Strongly Support |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|------------|------------------|------------------|
| 1) Businesses that increase jobs in HI | | | | | |
| 2) Installing energy saving equipment | | | | | |
| 3) Homeowners for home renovations | | | | | |

Where do you believe the priority should be for infrastructure improvements?

- | | Low Priority | Medium Priority | High Priority |
|--------------------------|--------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 1) Public Schools (K-12) | | | |
| 2) University of Hawaii | | | |
| 3) Roads & Highways | | | |
| 4) Airports | | | |
| 5) Harbors | | | |
| 6) Alternative Energy | | | |
| 7) State Parks | | | |

Given the state's budget shortfall, please tell me if you feel government spending in the following areas should less, more, or the same. Please check your answer.

- | | Less Spending | Same Spending | More Spending |
|--------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1) Human Services/Welfare | | | |
| 2) Transportation | | | |
| 3) Environment | | | |
| 4) Crime Enforcement | | | |
| 5) Crime/Drug Abuse Prevention | | | |
| 6) K-12 Education | | | |
| 7) Higher Education | | | |
| 8) Health/Long-Term Care | | | |
| 9) Renewable Energy | | | |
| 10) Economic Development | | | |

What is the most important issue facing the state in the coming year? Please rank the following issues from 1 to 6 with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important.

Economy

Environment/Energy

_____ Education

Housing

Health Care

Infrastructure

Please comment on any of the survey questions asked or any other concerns or questions you have.

[illegible]